

## ABSTRACT

A method of activating a mobile station for communicating with a telecommunications network, the method encompassing a two-stage registration procedure whereby in the first registration procedure, a permanent mobile station ID is obtained by the mobile station and in the second registration procedure, the permanent mobile station ID is used to identify the mobile station when downloading programming data from the telecommunications network. The invention allows for programming the mobile station with a permanent MSID of either a MIN or IMSI format, without requiring a TIA/EIA-136 SPACH notification process to notify the MS of incoming programming data. In particular, the steps of the method comprise: receiving at the telecommunications network a temporary activation ID from a mobile station; the network verifying the temporary activation ID; the network communicating a permanent MSID to the mobile station; the network receiving a permanent MSID from the mobile station; the network verifying the permanent MSID and then downloading programming data to the MS.